

Appl. No. 09/424,636  
Amdt. After Final Rejection Dated December 12, 2003  
Reply to Office Action of September 12, 2003

990.1210

### REMARKS

Reconsideration of the present application, as amended, is respectfully requested.

Claims 22-41 are pending in the application, claims 22, 29, 33, 40 and 41 having been amended herein.

Independent claims 22 and 33 have been amended herein to add the allowable subject matter of claims 29, 40 and 41 as indicated by the Examiner. Claims 29, 40 and 41 have been amended to be in independent form and to add the limitations of the independent claims from which they depended and any intervening claims. No new matter has been added.

Claims 22-23, 25-26, 32-35, were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Meinecke (5,169,501). Claims 27, 37 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Meinecke. Claim 38 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Meinecke in view of Karvinen (5,611,892). Claim 24 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Meinecke in view of Wicks (4,483,745). Claims 28, 30-31, 36, 39, were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Meinecke in view of Schiel (4,000,035). These rejections are respectfully traversed.

The Examiner stated that claims 29, 40 and 41 would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. The Examiner states "The primary reason for indicating allowable subject matter is that the cited prior art does

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not show an equipment for transferring a paper/board web in a paper or board machine, said equipment including an impingement drying unit arranged after a press nip and before a first group of drying cylinders (claims 29, 40-41).”

Independent claims 22 and 33 have been amended herein to add the allowable subject matter of claims 29, 40 and 41 as indicated by the Examiner. Therefore, claims 22 and 23 should now be allowed by the Examiner. Claims 23-28, 20-32 and 34-40 depends from independent allowable claims 22 and 23 and are therefore allowable. Claims 29, 40 and 41 have been amended to be in independent form and to add the limitations of the independent claims from which they depended and any intervening claims and are therefore allowable. In view of the above changes to the claims the Examiner’s rejections are now moot and the claims are allowable.

In view of the above amendments it is submitted that the Examiner’s rejections have been overcome and should be withdrawn and the present application should now be in condition for allowance.

Should any changes to the claims and/or specification be deemed necessary to place the application in condition for allowance, the Examiner is respectfully requested to contact the undersigned to discuss the same.

It is believed that the submission of this Amendment is timely. In the event that any fee or extension of time is required for the entry of this Amendment, the Commissioner is hereby specifically authorized to charge such fee to Deposit Account No. 50-0518 in the name of Steinberg

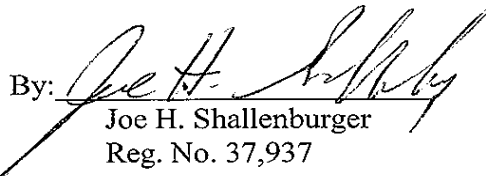
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& Raskin, P.C.

An early and favorable action on the merits is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,  
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By:   
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